

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

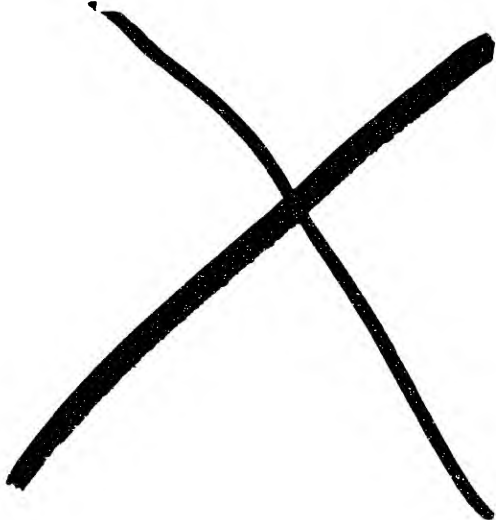
Memorandum

THE CRISIS
USSR/CUBA

Information as of 0600

6 November 1962

Approved for Release
Date 315 FEB 1985PREPARED FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
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Cuban propaganda media on 3 November continued to reflect a lack of information on the status of talks between Cuban leaders and Soviet First Deputy Premier Mikoyan. Some clue as to the progress of these talks or on any changes in the attitude of Castro regime officials towards the USSR may be given tonight by veteran Cuban Communist leader and agrarian reform chief Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, who is to deliver the keynote speech at a public commemoration of the October Revolution.



([REDACTED])

BLOC-CUBA

[REDACTED]

Bloc spokesmen continue to emphasize the line that Soviet actions during the Cuban crisis saved world peace. The advance text of Soviet Party Presidium member Kossygin's speech at the Kremlin today on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the October Revolution notes the President's "solemn declaration" that there would be no invasion of Cuba. Kossygin cites this as justification for withdrawing Soviet missiles from Cuba, since the "presence" of these weapons "lost its purpose." He addresses himself to the question of "who gave in to whom" and responds, "we consider that this was a compromise from both sides, a compromise to common sense and peace."

In line with Moscow's current de-emphasis of the German question, Kossygin pays only lip service to the issue. He asserts that the Soviet peoples want firm guarantees "today, and not after some indefinite period of time," against the repetition of German aggression, but says nothing about a deadline or a separate treaty.

The 5 November Pravda carried an article by Polish leader Gomulka defending the Soviet back-down in Cuba. He claimed that the USSR scored the major achievement of obtaining a US promise not to invade Cuba.

Bulgarian party leader Zhivkov followed the same line at the eighth party congress in Sofia. His speech yesterday drew loud applause, according to a Western press account, but the head of the Chinese Communist delegation sat back silently with folded arms.

In China, the Peiping regime continues to inveigh against any sign of Communist weakness on Cuba. For the third day running, mass demonstrations were organized throughout the country in support of Castro's "five just demands." Echoing the mainland press, Communist newspapers in Hong Kong are scoring policies of "appeasement." One newspaper indicated its disagreement with "some people" who felt that "Cuba is too small a country to risk a war with the United States."

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In its roundup of world reaction to the Cuban crisis, the Chinese Communist party newspaper People's Daily quoted an Albanian article as saying that the world would allow "no repetition of the events in the Congo, nor another Munich intrigue."

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